



Costs for New International Teachers

Once you've accepted a job you'll need to get everything ready for the visa application and will usually be responsible for covering some of the initial costs. Schools tend to give teachers either a **set allowance to cover all relocation costs** or **reimbursement for individual costs** – the latter may add up to higher but will usually only cover costs specific to working with them and will often need receipts to be provided.

A typical teacher will need **£600-£1800** to outlay before they arrive in their new country - varying based on their situation - and will usually be paid most or all of that back in their allowances once they have started their role. The table below outlines where the figures above come from.

| | Typical Price | Comment |
|-------------------------|----------------------|--|
| Certificates | £0 | Assuming you have them all |
| Police Check | £0 | Assuming you already have this |
| Notarisation | £200-£500 | Depends on visa requirements |
| Medical | £200-£600 | Depends on visa requirements |
| English Test | £0 | Rarely required (primarily UAE only) |
| Postage/Travel | £50 | Assuming you live near an embassy/consulate |
| Immunisations | £0 | Assuming they are free or not required |
| New Passport | £0 | Assuming it doesn't need renewing |
| Flights | £200-£700 | Depending on locations |
| Accommodation | £0 | Assuming you have school-provided accommodation |
| New Things | £0 | Assuming you have everything you need |
| Shipping | £0 | Assuming you travel light |
| Other Allowances | £0 | Not needed before you arrive |
| Visa/Agent | £0 | Rarely required (primarily late applicants to China) |

Over the next few pages we've put all the possible costs. Which of the costs will apply to you can vary depending on where you're going. ***Don't panic, you won't have to pay for all of them!***

If you are worried about these costs discuss it with your Teachanywhere consultant.



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Getting certificates/transcripts

If you do not have some of the required visa documents (or you don't have the originals) you'll need to obtain them. The cost of this will vary depending on what you need (e.g. not all schools require transcripts) and which university/awarding body you gained your qualifications through. Many universities will issue a copy of your transcript for free; getting a new degree certificate can cost upwards of £50 and take some time. ***This is generally seen as something you should already have and most schools won't offer reimbursement for this.***

Police Check

You will almost always need to provide a safeguarding check for the countries you've lived in recently (you may need more than one if you have lived in multiple countries). This will often need to be within a certain time period (3/6/12 months). How expensive/difficult this can be will vary from country to country. If you ask your current employer they may be able to give you one for free (although they aren't obliged to). For UK residents your consultant will be able to refer you to a provider that can do one online - this costs approx. £65 and takes approx. two weeks to arrive. ***This is often seen as something you should already have - a few schools may offer reimbursement for this, but most won't.***

Notarisation/Authentication/Attestation of Documents

These three things are separate processes - depending on where you are going you may not need any or you may need all three, and which of your documents are required to go through these processes will vary too. Some notaries can provide an all-in-one service for a slightly higher price - a ballpark price range of £200-£500 (depending on where you are going) should give you some idea of what to expect. Bear in mind that it can be much more expensive if you are doing this multiple times so make sure you get all the documents required done in one go and are clear on what needs doing. ***This is often seen as something you should already have - a few schools may offer reimbursement for this, but most won't.***

Medical Check

For many visa applications a 'proof of health' is required. Depending on where you are going what is needed can sometimes just be a letter from your doctor but in many cases can require a full check (including chest x-ray, blood test etc.) and often needs to be from a designated visa medical centre. A full check at the Harley Street Clinic in London costs around £600. ***This is usually seen as an essential cost and most schools will offer reimbursement for this.***

English Proficiency Test

This isn't too common, but for work in some locations you'll need a IELTS/TOEFL certificate to show your ability in English. If you are a native speaker it should be pretty easy for you to pass but the test itself can cost around £170. ***This is often seen as something you should already have - a few schools may offer reimbursement for this, but most won't.***



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Travel and Postage Costs

Some additional costs may include attending an embassy (the cost of this will vary greatly depending on where you live) and sending your original documents to the school (a ballpark figure of £50 for secure courier is common for this). ***Reimbursement for travel to an embassy is quite rare but sometimes happens, the majority of schools will reimburse for the postage.***

Immunisations

This will depend on where you are going and what immunisations you've previously had. The NHS provides some immunisations for free and has a website to tell you what you need. The cost can range anywhere from nothing (if you don't need any) to £800+ (if you need a lot and have no medical cover for them). ***This is generally seen as something you should already have and most schools won't offer reimbursement for this.***

Passport Renewal

If your passport has expired or is due to expire soon you may need to get it renewed. If you are in the UK this costs around £100, but this price can increase if you are trying to renew from overseas and/or need an express service. ***This is generally seen as something you should already have and most schools won't offer reimbursement for this.***

Flights

To find out how much this might cost just do an internet search! Bear in mind that sometimes flights can only be booked after your visa has been approved so it may be the higher priced short-notice flights. A few schools will buy your air ticket for you, some don't cover the cost of your flights but the majority will expect you to buy the tickets and be reimbursed later. ***This is usually seen as an essential cost and most schools will offer reimbursement for this. If a school doesn't offer flights you'll usually be made aware of this before you interview with them.***

Accommodation

School policies on accommodation can vary greatly. Many schools provide accommodation for you - that makes things easy and you'll usually be taken straight to your new home. It's also very common for schools to offer an allowance for accommodation to spend as you like - if that's the case they may get you a hotel initially, give you a temporary apartment and/or help you find a place. They may pay the deposit and/or rent for you or they may expect you to pay this and give the allowance in your monthly pay check. ***This is usually seen as an essential cost and most schools will offer reimbursement for this. If a school doesn't offer accommodation you'll usually be made aware of this before you interview with them.***



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New Clothes / Equipment

Whether it's a fur coat, a swimsuit, a new phone or stocking up on your favourite novelty stationery, you'll likely want some new things to take with you. A weather-appropriate wardrobe is a must for everyone, but what you need and what it costs can vary greatly. ***Some schools may provide certain equipment or give allowances for it (e.g. laptop/phone/stationary) but the majority of this won't be covered for reimbursement.***

Shipping/Extra Baggage/Relocation Allowance

It might cost you extra to bring your belongings with you, especially if you aren't a light traveller! The cost of an extra suitcase on your flight or sending your stuff in a shipping container can vary greatly depending on where you are going and how much you have - do your own research into the cost of this. ***Some schools provide a shipping allowance but many don't - it's usually mentioned in an offer letter if provided.***

Visa Agent/Tourist Visa

In certain cases - usually if you are too late in applying for your full work visa - you may need to enter the country on a tourist visa and/or use a visa agent to get things done quicker. Costs of this can vary from country to country and agent to agent. The absolute maximum you may have to pay for this would be around £500 but commonly it's much closer to £50 or less for a tourist visa. ***The cost of a tourist visa will almost always be reimbursed. If the school has specified you should use a visa agent that cost will usually be reimbursed too - if you have chosen to use the agent yourself for convenience you may not be reimbursed.***

Other Allowances

Some schools offer other allowances for everything from career development (e.g. courses, conferences) to bills, to personal costs (e.g. food, laundry). Usually these can't be paid up front so if you want to enrol on that course now you'll have to claim the cost back later! These have not been included in the calculations as they don't usually relate to any pre-arrival costs. ***These allowances are not common - they will usually be outlined in an offer letter if provided.***

Settling In Funds

It's recommended to take some money with you for when you first arrive - many schools will cover the cost of everything for the first day or two but you may not receive your first pay check for a month. You can look at taking the local currency with you, getting a cash passport or traveller's cheques or having your bank card with you to withdraw money (or all of the above). How much money you'll need varies greatly based on the cost of living where you are going and your lifestyle. We've not included this in the figures as it's not money you'll need to spend before you arrive.

If you have any questions about what costs may apply to you if you get an international role feel free to discuss this with your consultant who will be able to provide general advice.